

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL05/01117

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC: A43B 3/26( 2006.01)  USPC: 36/97,7.1R According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC												
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>  Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 36/97, 7.1R, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 100, 11.5  Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched NONE  Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) NONE												
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>												
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.										
X --- Y	US 6,237, 255 B1 (RENAUDIN et al) 29 May 2001, see whole reference.	1, 2, and 5-9 ----- 4										
X --- Y	US 6,138,385 A (JUNGKIND et al) 31 October 2000, see whole reference.	1, 2, 5, 6, 8, and 9 ----- 4										
X --- Y	US 4,727,662 A (ILON) 01 March 1988, see whole reference.	1 and 2 ----- 3 and 4										
A	US 5,966,840 A (BELL et al ) 19 October 1999, see whole reference.	1-12										
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.												
* Special categories of cited documents: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td> <td>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date</td> <td>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</td> <td>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td> <td>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention											
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"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art											
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family											
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed												
Date of the actual completion of the international search 08 June 2006 (08.06.2006)		Date of mailing of the international search report <b>02 AUG 2006</b>										
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201		Authorized officer Marie Patterson <i>A. Hurley for</i> Telephone No. 703-308-1148										

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### BOX III. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In order for more than one species to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid. The species are as follows:

- I. The shoe shown in figures 1-4.
- II. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5A.
- III. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5B.
- IV. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5C.
- V. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5D.
- VI. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5E.
- VII. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5F.
- VIII. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5G.
- IX. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5H.
- X. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5I.
- XI. The shoe shown in figures 1-4 modified by figure 5J.
- X. The shoe shown in figures 6 and 7.
- XI. The shoe shown in figures 8 and 9A.
- XII. The shoe shown in figure 9B.
- XIII. The shoe shown in figure 10.
- XIV. The shoe shown in figure 11.
- XV. The shoe shown in figure 11 modified by 12A.
- XVI. The shoe shown in figure 11 modified by 12B.
- XVII. The shoe shown in figure 11 modified by 12C.
- XVIII. The shoe shown in figures 13A-13D.
- XIX. The shoe shown in figures 14A-14C.
- XX. The shoe shown in figures 15A and 15B.
- XXI. The shoe shown in figures 16A and 16B.
- XXII. The shoe shown in figures 17A, 17B, and 18.

The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The separate species noted above all have different special technical features directed towards the types of connections, expanding members, attaching members, elastic central portions, removable sections, etc..

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## Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:  
Please See Continuation Sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
  2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.
  3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-12
- Remark on Protest
- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.   |